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EXCON

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ESTC, XG, JA

SUBJECT: EXPORT CONTROL COMPLIANCE STUDY

REF: STATE 066662

SUMMARY: RESPONSIBLE MITI OFFICIAL (KIMIO HADA) PROVIDED EMBOFFS WITH INFORMATION SET OUT BELOW TO EFFECT THAT MITI, IN CONJUNCTION WITH BANKS, CUSTOMS SERVICE AND JAPANESE POLICE, PROVIDE ENFORCEMENT OF EXPORT CONTROL PROVISIONS WHICH GOJ FINDS EFFECTIVE AND SUFFICIENT. END SUMMARY.

1. (Q. 1 AND 2) THE ORGANIZATION IN JAPAN RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING COMPLIANCE IN EXPORT CONTROL MATTERS IS THE EXPORT DIVISION, (REFERRED TO BKJLOW AS "THE DIVISION") INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION BUREAU, MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MITI). COCOM ENFORCEMENT IS RESPONSIBILITY OF A SECTION WITHIN THIS DIVISION. LEGAL AUTHORITIES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A) ARTICLES 26, 48, 49, 67, 69 AND PARA 4 OF SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND FOREIGN TRADE CONTROL LAW (LAW NO. 228 OF DEC. 1, 1949; LATEST AMEMDMENT: LAW NO. 99 OF JUNE 15, 1968);

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B) CABINET ORDER NO. 378 OF DEC. 1, 1949 (LATEST

AMENDMENT: ORDER NO. 343 OF NOV. 28, 1975);

- C) EXPORT TRADE CONTROL REGULATIONS ISSUED UNDER MITI ORDINANCE NO. 64 OF DEC. 1, 1949 (LATEST AMEMDMENT: ORDINANCE NO. 116 OF NOV. 28, 1975).
- 2. (Q. 3) THE DIVISION DOES NOT NORMALLY HAVE ACCESS TO PRIVATE ESTABLISHMENTS ON A REGULAR BASIS, BUT MAY MAKE OCCASIONAL SPOT CHECKS AS PART OF INVESTIGATION PROCESS (SEE BELOW).
- 3. (Q. 4) THE DIVISION HAS ITS OWN INVESTIGATIVE OFFICERS AS WELL AS MAKING POLICY DETERMINATIONS. IN ADDITION IT HAS ACCESS TO BANK AND CUSTOMS DATA, CUSTOMS AND POLICE INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES.
- 4. (Q. 5) PRE-LICENSING CROSS-CHECKING OF DOCUMENTS--BY MITI PRODUCT DIVISIONS AND EXPORT DIVISION, BY FOREIGN EXCHANGE BANKS AND BANK OF JAPAN AND BY CUSTOMS--IS EXTENSIVE AND THOROUGH AND IS SUPPLEMENTED BY POST-LICENSING CHECKS BY THE DIVISION AND BY SPOT-CHECKS OF THE GOODS AT PORT BY CUSTOMS UNDER ITI MINISTER'S DIRECTION. IF SUSPICION OF VIOLATION IS RAISED BY DISCREPANCIES IN DOCUMENTATION OR INFORMATION FROM OTHER QUARTERS--E.G., POLICE, BANKS, POLITICAL OPPOSITION--THE DIVISION IS EMPOWERED TO SUMMON RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS FROM BANKS OR BUSINESSES CONCERNED AND TO REQUIRE RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS TO RESPOND TO DIVISION'S INQUIRIES. OFFICIALS OF THE DIVISION MAY ALSO CONDUCT SPOT CHECKS AT THE PLACE OF BUSINESS. SEPARATE POLICE INVESTIGATION OF POSSIBLE TRADE LAW VIOLATIONS PROCEEDS INDEPENDENTLY. BUY MAY BE TRIGGERED BY A REQUEST FROM THE DIVISION. CASES BELIEVED TO INVOLVE GENUINE VIOLATIONS ARE REFERRED TO PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE BY ITI MINISTER. CLERICAL ERRORS OR OVERSIGHTS ARE REQUIRED TO BE EXPLAINED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE COMPANY CONCERNED.
- 5. (Q. 6) ALL ITEMS OF WHICH EXPORT IS RESTRICTED (INCLUDING, FOR EXAMPLE, DRUGS, NATIONAL TREASURER AND MILITARY ITEMS) FALL UNDER THE DIVISION'S JURISDICTION.
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6. (Q. 7) NO CASES OF WILLFUL VIOLATIONS PUNISHABLE BY FINES, IMPRISONMENT OR SUSPENSION OF TRADING PRIVILEGES AROSE IN 1975. TOTAL "WARNING CASES" DISCOVERED BY THE DIVISION, IN WHICH TOP COMPANY EXECUTIVES WERE REQUIRED TO APOLOGIZE FOR INADVERTENT ERRORS AND PROMISE THAT THEY WOULD NOT RECUR, NUMBERED IN THE DOZENS, BUT INCLUDED NO COCOM CASES.

7. (Q. 8) ACCORDING TO HADA, MITI AUTHORITIES ARE SATISFIED THAT CURRENT PROVISIONS AND OPERATIONS ARE EFFECTIVE IN ENFORCING COCOM AND GOJ EXPORT CONTROL REQUIREMENTS.

8. EMBASSY COMMENT: THE JAPANESE TRADITION OF OBEDIENCE AND RESPECT FOR CONSTITUTED AUTHORITY (CRIME RATE IS ONE OF LOWEST IN THE WORLD) COUPLED WITH A STRONG NEED FOR COMPANIES TO STAY ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT (LICENSE APPLICATIONS, ETC., OFTEN SEEM TO GET DELAYED IF A FIRM HAS THE REPUTATION OF CUTTING CORNERS ON OFFICIAL REGULATIONS) LEND A HIGH DEGREE OF CREDIBILITY TO THE CLAIM OF EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT.

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